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April 19, 2002
Date of deposit

Lois Maglione
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Applicant: Volkmar Schwitzky, Vincent Moreau, Boris Lotscher

Serial No.: 10/055,822

Filed: January 23, 2002

For: FINISHING PROCESS

Attorney Docket No.: 103797-238-NP

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to substantive examination of the above-identified application, please amend the specification and claims as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the specification with the substitute specification attached hereto. A marked up version of the substitute specification showing all changes relative to the previous version of the specification is also attached. The deleted matter is shown by brackets and the added matter is shown by underlying.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please rewrite claims 1-5 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for finishing a printed security sheet, wherein said printed security sheet is lacquered to increase durability and to emphasize at least one distinguishing feature.